

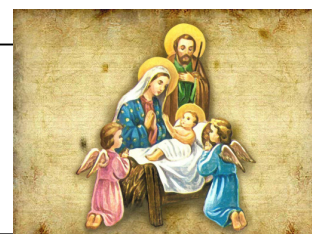
KOINONIA

November– December 2022



LUTHERAN PARISH OF NORTHERN DUTCHESS

PASTOR JAMES MILLER



A NOTE FROM PASTOR JIM

Dear Friends in Christ,

As I write this it is still October. The leaves have begun falling but the foliage is still a joy to behold---the oranges and reds, which stand out particularly well against a dark purple sky threatening rain. We have some important Sundays ahead of us. One will have passed by the time you read this. That would be Reformation Sunday, which is particularly important for Lutherans. The following Sunday, November 6, is when the Church remembers those loved ones who have gone to the Lord in the last 12 months: All Saints' Sunday. On November 20 our worship focusses on Christ who is our King. This is the last Sunday of the Church year. Finally, we come to the Day of Thanksgiving and our Parish will celebrate that in a worship service at St. Paul's on Tuesday, November 22 at 2 PM.

However, the main theme of my article is the next season: Advent. It is a season of preparing, of waiting to celebrate the birth of Jesus as well as the Second Coming. We want to prepare ourselves. God is so gracious in sending His only Son on a mission: to save His Creation---that's us. He wants us to live lives which are spiritually and physically healthy---free from false beliefs and free from sinful and unhealthy behavior.

In the early days of the church, part of this preparation involved fasting---as much as 3 days per week. Originally the color of the paraments in the church were black, but this gave way to purple, which symbolized solemnity and is still used in the Roman Catholic churches. Lutherans and Anglicans adopted blue as their color as it is a symbol of hope.

You'll see the Advent wreath in all of our congregations. It was first created by Johann Hinrich Wichen, a Lutheran pastor in Germany, in 1839. The 4 candles symbolize the 4 Sundays of Advent and their flames represent the approaching light as the days get shorter and the nights get longer. The fir branches and holly do not lose their needles or leaves and they represent the eternity of God.

The Church assigned names for each Sunday. The first is *Ad Te Levavi* which in Latin is the beginning of Psalm 25: "To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul." The second is *Populus Zion*, which comes from Isaiah 62: 11b, "Say to the people of Zion, 'Behold, your salvation comes'."

The third is *Gaudete*, taken from Philippians 4:4, "Rejoice in the Lord always". And the fourth is *Rorate Coeli*, taken from Isaiah 45: 8, "Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness; let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit."

Advent is the beginning of our Church year. Notice that we don't begin once Jesus is born. We begin by waiting---holding on to the prophecies from the Old Testament that our Savior is coming. We begin our year with faith in those promises. I pray that all of us will find our Advent season to be spiritually fruitful and a time in which our faith is strengthened as we prepare ourselves for the coming of Jesus.

In Christ, Pastor Jim

Memorial Lutheran Church

STAGES IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

*I write to you. little children . . .
fathers . . . young men.*

Christian perfection does not imply, as some seem to have imagined, an exemption either from ignorance, mistake, infirmities, or temptation,. Indeed, it is only another term for holiness. Thus, everyone that is holy is, in the scriptural sense, perfect.

Yet, we may observe that neither in this respect is there any absolute perfection on earth. There is no perfection of degrees - none which does not admit of a continual increase. How much soever anyone has attained, or in how high a degree soever he or She is perfect, they still have need to grow in grace and daily advance in the knowledge an Love of God our Savior.

In what sense, then, are Christians perfect? First, it should be premised that there are several stages in Christian life, as in natural. Some of the children of God are but newborn babes; others have attained more maturity. Accordingly, in his First Epistle (vv. 12-14 NKJV), St John applies himself severally to those he term little children, those he styles young men, and those he entitles fathers.

“Little children ... Your sins are forgiven you ... Young men ... You have known Him who is from the beginning.” These “fathers” knew the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in their inmost souls, “perfect men,” grown up “to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ” (Ephesians 4:13 NKJV).



Memorial Members Birthdays

Richard Streifender November 09
Virginia Huneke December 29

God Bless
Memorial Council President
Tandy F. Walker
(518) 789-6899

Message from St. Paul's

We celebrated Reformation Sunday on October 30. It is always special when Pastor Jim accompanies our last hymn "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" with his trumpet! It was also special to welcome our new members; Harriet, Alan, Maria, Evvie, and Colleen to our church family.

We will honor our veterans on November 13, followed by our annual Oktoberfest at 12:30 pm. We will be serving Brats, Knocks, German potato salad, coleslaw, and apple crisp. We welcome all members of the Parish to join us. There is a suggested donation of \$12.

St. Paul's will be having a Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday, November 22 at 2:00 pm. This is for the Parish and we are also inviting the Red Hook Council of Churches. We have a lot to be thankful for and let us give thanks to our Lord for his goodness.

We are collecting for the Seafarers Christmas at Sea Satchels and putting together shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Please note that all the items and boxes need to be back at the church by November 13, so they can be sent out in time for Christmas. The Parish is participating in a new outreach to the Lutheran Care Center in Poughkeepsie. For more details see page 4 of this newsletter.

We will hold Christmas Eve service on December 24 at 7:30 pm. Third will be having their Christmas Eve service at 5:30 pm, and a Christmas Day service will be at Memorial at 10:00 am.

Wishing everyone a blessed holiday season.

God Bless,

Marilyn Heuer

Council President



November Birthdays

2 Jean Bard
10 Katherine Baldwin
18 Brian Williams
23 Cole Piaget
23 Pastor Jim
24 Gladys Unson
29 Mike Bo

December Birthdays

2– Joy Peterson
7– Art Smith III
7– Frank McConville
17– Lolly Humphrey
20– Jennifer Baldwin
26– Art Smith Jr.

Oktoberfest @ St. Paul's

November 13 @ 12:30p.m.

St. Paul's Parish Hall

Brats, Knocks, German Potato Salad, Coleslaw, Sauerkraut, and Apple Crisp

Suggested Donation of \$12

To help us plan food quantities, please sign up on the sheets located in the back of each church.

Please join us for this fellowship event!

Open to the Parish

Service Worship Opportunities

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service—	November 22	2:00 pm @ St. Paul's
Christmas Eve—Candlelight	December 24	5:30 pm @ Third
		7:30 pm @ St. Paul's
Christmas Day	December 25	10:00 am @ Memorial

Meetings

Third W&M	November 1 & December 6 @ 4:00 pm
Parish Council	November 15 & December 20 @ 6:00 pm
Joint Session of Councils	November 15 & December 20 @ 6:30 pm
Congregational Councils:	November 15 & December 20 @ 7:00 pm

Council meetings in November @ Third, Council meetings in December @ St. Paul's

Faith Building Opportunities

Bible Study

with Pastor Jim

Every Thursday @ 10:00 am

Third Rhinebeck

Contact Pastor Jim , 914-441-4360

All are Welcome!

Invite a friend!

Service Opportunities

Crafty Christians

We are meeting in person
Every Thursday at 11:00 am!

Third Rhinebeck

*All members and friends of the Parish and
members of the community are welcome
to participate!*

Contact Bonnie Reyero 518-697-7608

Please invite a friend to join us!

Red Cross Blood Drive

Wednesday, January 11, 2023

2:00—7:00 pm

@ Third Rhinebeck

Schedule an appointment:

Contact Bonnie at 845-337-1590
or visit RedCrossBlood.org

Operation Christmas Child

Shoebboxes are due in church by Nov. 13.

Seafarer's International

Items for Christmas Satchel due in church
by Nov. 13

Please see the back of your church for
information on both, or contact Christine
in the Parish office at 876-4471

Lutheran Care Center Christmas

New Items

Toiletries
Custom Jewelry
Perfume/cologne
Socks/slippers
Sunglasses
Decorative scarf

Please No

Stuffed Animals
Lap robes
Books

**Please bring unwrapped items to church
by December 11.**

Thank you for your participation in our Parish mission of service.

Worship Services on Video
YouTube Channel: LutheranParishNorthernDutchess

Weekly uploads

If you missed a Sunday, the services are still available on the channel for easy access.

Access Videos:

Parish Webpage: www.LutheranParishNorthernDutchess.org

Click on Pastor Jim's picture on the Home Page. This will take you to the YouTube channel for the Parish. Select the readings or sermon you would like to view.

Please share via your social media networks, Like the Parish Facebook page, subscribe to this YouTube Channel, and/or forward the weekly emails.

Pastor Jim continues to be available for pastoral care, conversation, and prayer:
phone 914-441-4360 or email circuitpastorjim@aol.com.

Reminder — Donations from Amazon

Our Parish is registered as a qualifying charitable organization with the AmazonSmile Foundation. Amazon has set up a process by which non-profit organizations such as our parish can receive a percentage of purchases made on Amazon. Each quarter Amazon then remits an electronic payment to the charitable organization as selected by the purchaser.



To support our parish such that it receives a percentage of your purchases, instead of signing in to Amazon.com in the usual manner, use the following sign-in:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/61-1704361>

Although the sign-in contains the word “smile”, you are directed to the regular amazon.com homepage on which you can place your order as usual.

Many of us frequently use Amazon to purchase various items. By taking a few moments to set up your access, your purchases will provide a financial benefit to the Parish.

Contact: Gary Hack, Parish Treasurer at hackg@citlink.net if you would like further information

Return: Lutheran Parish of Northern Dutchess
31 Livingston Street
Rhinebeck, NY 12572

Dated Material Address Correction Requested

To:



KOINONIA

Lutheran Parish of Northern Dutchess

Pastor James Miller

www.lutheranparishnortherndutchess.org

Like us on Facebook: [lutheranparishnortherndutchess](https://www.facebook.com/lutheranparishnortherndutchess)

*Contributors: Pastor James Miller, Monica C. Gabryszewski (Third),
Tandy F. Walker (Memorial), Marilyn Heuer (St. Paul's),*



**Memorial Lutheran Church, 8:30 am Service, 1232 Rte. 308, (Rock City)
Rhinebeck, NY 12572 Council President: Tandy Walker**

**Third Lutheran Church, 9:45 am Service, 31 Livingston Street, Rhinebeck,
NY, 12572 Council President: Monica C. Gabryszewski**

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 11:00 am Service, 7412 South Broadway,
Red Hook, NY 12571 Council President : Marilyn Heuer**

Pastor James Miller, Cell phone (914)441-4360, CircuitPastorJim@aol.com

Parish Secretary, Christine Murray, Parish office:845-876-4471

Parish email: tlcr@frontiernet.net

Secretary hours are Wednesday & Thursday, 10am– 3pm